

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 4632-31

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Yukio Namai et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1722  
)  
Serial No.: 09/961,434 ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
)  
Filed: September 25, 2001 )  
)  
For: Method and an Apparatus for )  
Shaping a Dough Piece )

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the election requirement of January 22, 2004, applicants elect  
Species A for further prosecution with this application.

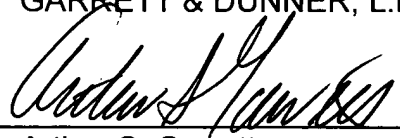
The claims readable on the elected Species are claims 1-7 and 18-20.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on non-elected claims  
8-17.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this statement, please  
charge such fee to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:   
Arthur S. Garrett  
Reg. No. 20,338

Dated: February 23, 2004

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